



news and information
for employees of the
City of Saint Paul

August 20, 2004

In this issue

Park Japanese Lantern
Lighting Festival

2004 City Employee
Picnic

New Traffic Division
Manger

Mayor

Randy Kelly

Councilmembers

*Kathy Lantry,
President*

Jay Benanar

Patrick Harris

Dan Bostrom

Lee Helgen

Debbie Montgomery

Dave Thune

City Update

210 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102
editor 651-266-6765
fax 651-266-8919
city.update@ci.stpaul.mn.us
www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/cityupdate

City Update is published bi-weekly
by the Office of Technology. Submis-
sion deadline is noon, Friday, one
week before payday.

www.ci.stpaul.mn.us

City Update
www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/cityupdate

Park Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival



A troupe from Japan will perform vibrant folk dances dating back to the 13th century for the first time in Minnesota at the Como Park Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival on Sunday, Aug. 22 from 4 p.m. to dusk.

Presenting the widest range of authentic Japanese festival entertainment, arts and crafts, and food in Minnesota, this year's Como Park Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival will honor the 150th anniversary of relations between Japan and the United States by featuring the magical and mysterious *bon* dances of the Nishimonai Bon Dance troupe from Akita Prefecture in northern Japan.

Obon is Japan's annual festival of the dead when Buddhist beliefs hold that departed ancestors return to earth. Families welcome spirits by lighting lanterns to guide them back to their ancestral homes and with lively dancing.

Countless regional *bon* dances are performed in Japan. The Nishimonai *bon* dance is unique in that intricate dance movements passed down by generations for more than 700 years come to life in our digital age. Troupe members in resplendent kimonos and traditional garb sway to the accompaniment of wooden flutes, *shamisen* guitars and *taiko* drums.

Continued on Page 2

Please print this for your co-workers. The City is continuing to save money by not producing printed copies of the City Update, but still needs to communicate to all employees. Please help by printing this newsletter (preferably back-to-back) for workers in your area who do not have computer access. Thank you.

Park Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival Continued from Page 1

Scheduled events kick off with a dramatic *taiko* drum performance by Mu Daiko from 4:00 p.m. on the main festival stage, followed by *shakuhachi* (bamboo flute) and *koto* (zither) performances by Sakura Kai, a traditional Japanese ensemble; Japanese folk and classical dances by the Mikaharu Kai troupe; folk and cherry blossom dances by the Sansei Yonsei Kai group; and traditional and contemporary songs sung by Mu-Min, a choir made up of Japanese volunteers living in Minnesota. Accomplished *shakuhachi* and *koto* musicians will also give performances in a natural outdoor setting at the Como Ordway Memorial Japanese Garden through the evening.

Booths will feature traditional Japanese arts and crafts, including live zen meditation; martial arts; *ikebana* (flower arrangement); kite-flying; *origami* (paper folding); *bonsai* (dwarfed tree cultivation); free-style weaving; and calligraphy demonstrations. Japanese pottery will be exhibited.

The Como Park Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival is organized by the Como Ordway Memorial Japanese Garden, the Saint Paul Nagasaki Sister City Committee and the Japan America Society of Minnesota.

Admission to the festival is \$4 for ages three and over; the family rate is \$10 for two adults (16 and older) and any number of children (15 and younger).

For free shuttle bus and off-site parking and other information, call (651) 487-8201.

Student Services at CCCU

As a new school year approaches, your Credit Union wants to educate your children and teens on handling their finances.

Our Student Services package is perfect for those ages 13-18. Teens are eligible for savings, checking, an ATM/Debit card, and a Student Visa card and automatically receive our newsletter, On the Money. When opening a new account, your student will receive a free CD holder!

If you have family members going off to college, remind them to take the Credit Union with! We are easily accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week with PC FIRST online account access and ATLAS telephone

teller. Sign up for either of these free services at www.cccu.com, or by calling our TeleCenter.

Children age 12 and younger enjoy the benefits of our Dino-Mite Saver's Club, including special birthday gifts, a colorful newsletter, and fun events for families. When their account is opened, your child receives a free ceramic piggy bank with a qualifying deposit.

Remember that family or friends who live, work, worship or attend school in Ramsey, Washington or Northern Dakota County can join. Call us at 651-225-2700 or 1-800-223-2801, or stop in at any of our locations for more information.

*City & County Credit Union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.

2004 City Employee Picnic

The weather was cool, not particularly the best weather for a picnic, still we feel that it was a great success. Nearly, 1,200 employees and family members attended this year's picnic.

The grand prize winner for the Airline Ticket provided by Travel Associates of Eagan, Mn was Michelle Peterson, employee of Parks and Rec at 1100 N. Hamline.

The City Employee Picnic Committee would like to give a big "THANK YOU" to all the people that signed up to volunteer at the picnic and to the people that volunteered at the very last minute to help at the picnic. We could have not done it without you.

City Employee Picnic Committee

New Traffic Division Manager

Paul St. Martin was recently appointed by Public Works Director Bob Sandquist as manager of the Traffic Division. The Traffic Division has 85 employees and a \$14.3 million budget and is responsible for design and operation of traffic signals, street lights, street signs, markings and right-of-way management.

Paul began his career with the Department of Public Works in 1984, and his most recent assignment was as Public Works' Technical Services Division manager. He begins his work in the Traffic Division on August 16, replacing long time Public Works manager Don Sobania who retired recently.

Congratulations Paul!

City job openings as of August 20th, 2004

Application deadline	Job title	Bi-weekly or hourly salary rate	Exam date
08/30/04	Criminalist II	\$1,759.76 bi-weekly	See Job Ann
08/31/04	Payroll System Supervisor (prom)	\$1,435.68 bi-weekly	See Job Ann
09/07/04	Communication Technician W/O Premium	\$1,529.77 bi-weekly	See Job Ann
09/07/04	Communications Technician Helper (seasonal)	\$13.77 per hr	See Job Ann
09/09/04	City Planner II	\$1,518.42 bi-weekly	See Job Ann

Note: Call or visit the Office of Human Resources to receive the official job announcement for these positions. Location: 400 City Hall Annex. Phone: (651) 266-6500 or visit the web site: www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/jobopenings. For jobs announced after this date, please call our 24-hour job line, (651) 266-6502.